Summertime...and the livin’ is easy, and when, according to conventional wisdom, we like to read less challenging books (‘‘beach reading,’’ if you will). I’m not at all sure this is true, but whatever’s the case, our Readers’ Picks this summer reflect a very wide range, from popular novels to political biography to social commentary. Thanks to everyone who responded!

Since I’m filling in for Anna Marie this issue (we promise she’ll be back soon), I get to start out with a couple books I’m currently reading. As many of you know, I’ve been working weekends at Carmichael’s Bookstore for close to 20 years. One of the perks of bookstore life is occasionally one gets to read a book before it’s released, and this month a copy of the “new” Robert A. Heinlein novel came my way. Of course Heinlein, who many consider the greatest science fiction writer of the 20th century, died in 1988, so what we have here is a novel by Spider Robinson based on some fairly detailed notes written in 1955 that were found in Heinlein’s papers a few years ago. Resurrecting dead authors is almost always a bad idea, so let’s not pretend this is a Heinlein novel. It is, however, a rather good pastiche of a Heinlein novel, made up of bits and pieces of his other books — a little Time for the Stars, a touch of The Door Into Summer, some Glory Road, etc. Still, Variable Star is great fun and a good story of a young man going off to find his true destiny by pulling himself up by his own bootstraps, which, come to think of it, describes almost every Heinlein novel written! Unfortunately, you’ll have to wait until September 19 to read this one.

I like books. Specifically, I like old paperback books. One of the creators of the modern mass market paperback is Allen Lane, founder of Penguin Books, and a new biography, Penguin Special: The Life and Times of Allen Lane by Jeremy Lewis (Ekstrom RRS Z325.L245 L49 2005) was just published in the U.S. It’s a fascinating portrait of the emergence of modern publishing and, more broadly, a story of postwar Britain. A sort of companion book, Penguin by Design: A Cover Story, 1935-2005 by Phil Baines, offers hundreds of pictures of Penguin book covers. We don’t have this in the library because I haven’t been able to figure out how it would fit into any subject collection!

But now it’s your turn...
Jodi Duce, Law Library
I would like to suggest Digging to America by Anne Tyler (Ekstrom Browsing PS3570.Y45 D47 2006). I have read most of her books and I just like her style of writing. Another book I really liked was The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini (Ekstrom Browsing PS3608.O832 K58 2003) which was about a boy growing up in Afghanistan. I thought it was very good!

Leslie Farison, Information Literacy
Expecting Adam by Martha Beck (Ekstrom stacks RG629.D68 .B43 1999) tells a true story in which hearts trump brains every time. It’s a tale about a series of experiences and inexplicable phenomena that prompts the author (and her husband), both with two Harvard degrees apiece, into leaving behind the life of a stressed-out super-achiever, opening herself to things she’d never dared consider, and “unlearning virtually everything Harvard taught her about what is precious and what is garbage.”

I laughed and I cried as the author described the dramatic change in the couple’s perception of what’s important in life. They credit their son, Adam, for showing them what matters most in this world. A very inspirational story.

Also, for hilarious, easy reading fun, I recommend the “Stephanie Plum” series of very funny books by Janet Evanovich. Her novels revolve around the adventures of a female bond enforcement agent (“bounty hunter”) and combine crime, detection, romance, lust, humor and chicken soup in more-or-less equal quantities, and in no particular sequence. Books seven and higher are in Browsing; older ones are in the general stacks. They are, in numerical order:

One For The Money
Two For the Dough
Three To Get Deadly (the first three titles have also been published in a 3-in-one collection, Three Plums in One)
Four To Score
High Five
Hot Six
Seven Up
Hard Eight
To The Nines
Ten Big Ones
Eleven on Top
Twelve Sharp

Gail Gilbert, Art Library
Outwitting History by Aaron Lansky (Ekstrom RRS Z987 .L25 2004). From BOOKLIST on Amazon: In 1980, a twenty-three-year-old student named Aaron Lansky set out to rescue the world’s abandoned Yiddish books before it was too late. Twenty-five years and one and a half million books later, he’s still in the midst of a great adventure. Filled with poignant and often laugh-out-loud tales from Lansky’s travels across the country as he
collected books from older Jewish immigrants—books their own children had no use for. *Outwitting History* also explores brilliant Yiddish writers and enables us to see how an almost-lost culture is the bridge between the Old World and the future.

Aaron Lanksy is the founder and president of the National Yiddish Book Center (www.yiddishbookcenter.org) in Amherst, Massachusetts. The recipient of a MacArthur “genius” fellowship, Lanksy has helped fuel a renaissance of Jewish literature in this country. He lives with his family in western Massachusetts.

**Outwitting History** by Aaron Lanksy (PublicAffairs, 2005) recounts a remarkable collection of Yiddish books and manuscripts, and explores the history of Jewish life in America.

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*Marette Irwin, Technical Services, Ekstrom Library*

*The Long Silence of Mario Salviati* by Etienne van Heerden, translated by Catherine Knox (Ekstrom Browsing PT 6592.32 .A5235 S9413 2003) is a novel set in South Africa and originally written in Afrikaans.

In the town of Yearsonend in the Karoo region, a semi-desert region in South Africa, a statue has risen from the earth to appear in the yard of Jonty Jack, a struggling sculptor. Jonty has named it the Staggering Merman and refuses to sell it to any of the art museums vying for it. Ingi Friedlander, from Cape Town’s National Gallery, is determined to have it, and so she travels to Yearsonend to seek out Jonty. Interwoven with Ingi’s quest is the story of Jonty’s father, Big Karel, who came up with the novel idea to run a channel over Mount Improbable to bring water to Yearsonend. Ingi becomes increasingly curious about Mario Salviati, a deaf, dumb, and blind Italian man who helped Karel in his quest. Ingi is drawn to Mario and his untold story, even as Jonty is both repelled and attracted by her. “How can you ever comprehend a community like Yearsonend if you only look at dates and forced removals and statues and facts?” Jonty wonders. A rich, vibrant novel that muses on the place of art and legend in the modern world.

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*Tsotsi: a novel* by Athol Fugard (Ekstrom stacks PR9369.3 F8 T7 1980). Athol Fugard is renowned for his relentless explorations of personal and political survival in apartheid South Africa. He wrote a single novel, *Tsotsi*, which director Gavin Hood made into a feature film that was South Africa’s official entry for the 2006 Academy Awards. The film was awarded an Oscar for Best Foreign Film.

Set amid the sprawling Johannesburg township of Soweto, where survival is the primary objective, Tsotsi traces six days in the life of a ruthless young gang leader. When we meet Tsotsi, he is a man without a name who has repressed his past and now exists only to stage and execute vicious crimes. When he inadvertently kidnaps a baby, Tsotsi is confronted with memories of his own painful childhood, and this angry young man begins to rediscover his own humanity, dignity, and capacity to love.

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*Anna Marie Johnson, Information Literacy*

*Sushi for Beginners* by Marian Keyes (Ekstrom Browsing PR 6061.E88 S87 2003). British chick-lit along the lines of *Bridget Jones’s Diary* (Ekstrom stacks PR6056.14588 B75 1998), this novel was funny and entertaining enough to sustain me through mild to moderate labor contractions, about 15 minutes apart. Lisa is a magazine editor who thinks she’s being promoted to the New York office, when in reality she’s being given the seemingly impossible assignment of launching an Irish women’s magazine in what she considers the backwater of Dublin. Of course, personal redemption follows, but along the way there is the handsome Jack.
Devine to attempt to seduce, her tightly-wound assistant Ashling who turns out to be the story’s heroine, and an oddball cast of characters. If you liked *Bridget Jones* and its sequels, this is more of the same, but the writing is better, I think, and the emotions run a little deeper.

*Friends, Lovers, Chocolate* by Alexander McCall (Ekstrom Browsing PR 6063 .C326 F75 2005). The second installment in McCall’s The Sunday Philosophy Club series has the heroine Isabel Dalhousie confronting two problems: her infatuation with her niece’s ex-boyfriend Jamie and a thorny philosophical question, namely is the heart truly the seat of the soul. The latter problem is brought to her quite accidentally by a heart transplant recipient with an anonymous donor. Isabel seeks to uncover the donor and in so doing stirs up trouble. Throw in a handsome Italian with ties to the Scottish throne and Isabel has all kinds of philosophical questions to ponder.

*The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3601 .L335 F59 2003). I still haven’t read *Tuesdays with Morrie* (Ekstrom stacks LD571.B418 S383 1997), but I was impressed by this little book. Some of it tends toward the schmaltzy, but I liked the conceptual idea: that when you die, you talk with five people from your life…known to you or not…with whom you’ve had some connection who explain why things happened the way they did and the outcomes from those events that you may have never realized. Heaven comes at the end of those five conversations because then you truly understand your purpose in life. The concept isn’t complex, but Albom executes it nicely, and I’ve always liked the idea of connections between people that you can’t necessarily readily identify.

*The Good Wife Strikes Back* (Ekstrom Browsing PR6052.U214 G66 2004) and *Revenge of the Middle-Aged Woman* Ekstrom Browsing PR6052 .U214 R4 2003) by Elizabeth Buchan. I’m writing these up together because they are quite similar. I read the *Revenge* first and whether because I read it first or it is actually the better of the two, I did enjoy it a little more. But, I read *The Good Wife* because I liked Buchan’s writing and because I wanted a little more of the same, so I guess that says something. Both involve wives who try to be there for their husbands and children to the point where, when they hit middle-age, they have a crisis of sorts. Rose’s (*Revenge*) comes as a result of her husband Nathan’s affair with her 30-something assistant (she’s the books editor at a London newspaper and her husband is one of the editors). Fanny’s comes when her father dies and her only child leaves on an extended vacation to Australia. Both women find themselves by traveling to other countries and experiencing life on their own for a while. The set-up in *Revenge* is better in my opinion…but they’re so similar that both are fun reads…even if you’re not a “good wife.”

*Mona in the Promised Land* by Gish Jen (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3560 .E474 M66 1996). A surprisingly dense book about ethnic identity told through the eyes of a Chinese-American girl whose family moves into a primarily Jewish neighborhood in New York state. The story follows Mona Chang, or Changowitz as her Jewish friends refer to her after her conversion to Judaism, through her high school years with her battles with her mother, her first love, and her struggle to figure out who she really is. The confusion of ethnic identities adds depth to typical adolescent angst. This book was the book-in-common last year in UofL’s English Dept. and I wish I’d read it then.

*The Coal Tattoo* by Silas House (Ekstrom Browsing PS3558.O8659 C63 2004). Third in his trilogy…the story of sisters Easter and Anneth whose love for each other overcomes their seemingly huge personality differences. Anneth is Clay’s mother in the first book of the trilogy, *Clay’s Quilt*...
George McWhorter, Special Collections
I recommend *West with the Night* by Beryl Markham (Ekstrom TL540.M34 .A3), which has had two incarnations by at least two different publishers, and it is still fascinating reading today. She was killed by African natives, but enjoyed the last two or three years of her life with the royalties from her book...thanks to the energetic encouragement of Ernest Hemingway who wrote the introduction. Do you need a long encomium, or will it suffice to say that she raised horses in Africa where she grew up, a white English woman among black African natives, and ultimately made world history by flying alone across the Atlantic from East to West. Her biography is poetic and sensitive. I could not put the book down, and finished it at one reading.

Amy Purcell, Special Collections
*Plum Sykes’ The Debutant Divorcee* (Ekstrom Browsing PR6119.Y54 D43 2006b), is a total beach book! The characters are mostly super rich twenty-something girls who live in New York City with a few “workers” thrown in. It’s a fun quick read.

*The Whole World Over* by Julia Glass (Ekstrom Browsing PS3607.L37 P54 2006), is a wonderful story about some people from the same neighborhood in New York City. The characters are well-developed and interesting. While this was a great book, I enjoyed her first novel, *Three Junes* (which won the National Book Award), even more. Both books tell separate stories with the characters interacting by the end.

Suzan-Lori Parkes, a Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright has written an excellent debut novel, *Getting Mother’s Body* (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3566 .A736 G4 2003). This is a story of Billy Beede, a poor, pregnant, black girl who lives in Texas in 1963. Each chapter is written from the perspective of one of the characters. Billy’s wild, blues-singing mother is buried in Arizona with a “treasure” and her grave is on property that has been sold for a shopping center development project. This story is about getting her mother’s body. Parkes’ writing style immerses you in the characters so you can laugh at some things that are funny only in a “hard luck” sort of way. It was a poignant and bittersweet novel and I highly recommend it.

Raymond Slaughter
*Stephen King’s Cell* (Ekstrom Browsing PS3561.I483C382006) is a must read for all horror fans. For all those cell phone-crazed folks, look out! The Pulse hits all the cell phones nationwide. Anyone who is talking on a cell phone when The Pulse hits becomes a homicidal maniac. That is at least a million people. They start killing each other at random and completely lose their minds. Imagine the chaos that follows from one city to the next! In today’s world and technology, this is so scary, it could just actually happen!

Elizabeth Smigielski, Kornhauser Library
*Truman* by David McCullough (Ekstrom E814 .M26 1992) is the definitive biography of Harry Truman. Surprisingly engaging, even if you aren’t particularly interested in politics, it’s a balanced overview, emphasizing Truman’s honesty, work-ethnic and perseverance, but without overlooking mistakes and warts. Particularly timely, since both Clinton and Bush have claimed the mantle of Truman’s memory in their campaigns.
Bess W. Truman by Margaret Truman (Ekstrom E814.1.T68 T68 1986). The lighter side of the Trumans. Of course, Margaret doesn’t show all the warts, but this book based on excerpts from the 1600+ letters the Trumans wrote to one another from the start of their nine-year courtship to their post-presidency retirement gives insight into a durable, strong partnership as well as the private side of public life. Incidentally, I picked up my copy in the Kornhauser Book Transplant (book exchange).

Barbara Whitener, Reference Dept., Ekstrom Library
Three books I have read and enjoyed recently:

Manhunt: The Twelve-Day Chase for Lincoln’s Killer by James L. Swanson (Ekstrom Browsing E457.5.S993 2006) put the reader right in the middle of the 12-day manhunt for John Wilkes Booth after the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.


Library Exhibits
Ekstrom Library
Chao Auditorium Lobby
Lyman T. Johnson Collection
History of Mr. Johnson’s life, celebrating his 100th birthday memorial and the donation of his papers to the University of Louisville

Photographic Archives
Peaceful Places: The Abbey at Gethsemani & Cherokee Park
Turn of the century photographs by P. Theodore Eitel
P. Theodore Eitel (1868-1955) was the founder of a Louisville cigar manufacturing company, an active musician and amateur photographer. He used the wet plate photographic process. (The wet plate process required photographers to prepare and develop their glass plates on the spot, usually in a mobile darkroom.) Eitel was an award-winning amateur photographer who specialized in photographing beech trees in Kentucky. He also had a keen interest in Gethsemani.
July 14 – September 29, 2006
A reception will be held on September 14, from 5:00 - 7:00 pm, with Dianne Aprile giving a talk at 6:00 pm

Rare Books
Firsts for Incoming Freshmen
an exhibition of rare books to welcome new students
August 1 – September 29, 2006

Music Library
First Floor
Handel’s Solomon
The 1790 edition of G. F. Handel’s Solomon is on display to coincide with The Louisville Bach Society’s performance of the work on April 30. The display also includes memorabilia from the Society.
Through August 2006

Second Floor
New Books
May and June were very busy months for the libraries as we worked with the construction crews to finish the new addition and began the renovation of the first floor entrance area in the original part of the building. This area will become an “Information Commons” housing Media and related services, reference services and a reading area with comfortable seating. The front entrance doors will be replaced and the student lounge will become a quiet study area. We hope to have this project finished by the time the new semester begins.

On May 10, ASERL, the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries, sponsored the first program for non-MLS professionals working in ASERL libraries at Georgia Tech University in Atlanta, Georgia. Approximately fifty persons participated in this workshop, which discussed historical roles of research libraries in higher education, provided an overview of scholarly communication and roles of research libraries, and the ripple effects of new technology in higher education and research libraries. Team discussions related to these topics took place in the afternoon and were summarized. Evaluations of this workshop indicate that participants found it valuable and would like to see other workshops like this in the future.

Following the ASERL workshop, SOLINET held its two-day annual membership meeting, SAMM, on May 11-12 in the Georgia Tech Conference Center in Atlanta. James Nelson, Kentucky’s State Librarian and current chair of the SOLINET Board of Directors, presided. Dr. Robert S. Martin, current Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and Frank X. Walker, artist and writer from Kentucky, were the program speakers. Various discussion sessions covered advocacy, change agents, technology, marketing, staff development, consortia purchasing, understanding library users, blogging in libraries and the library as place.

From May 16-19 the Association of Research Libraries, ARL, met in Ottawa, Canada. Since ARL includes Canadian Research Libraries, the group meets in Canada every five years. As usual the meeting was packed with important information including such topics as the international dimensions of digital science and scholarship, Canada’s newest knowledge institution, enabling international digital projects, science in the public interest, the changing nature of intellectual authority, and copyright and creativity in international scholarship and the politics of research library leadership. Additionally, there were task forces and working groups as well as membership meetings. It was a most informative gathering.

On June 2, the Libraries sponsored a significant event: the Lyman T. Johnson 100th birthday memorial celebration. The celebration featured a special exhibit highlighting Lyman T. Johnson’s remarkable life as major civil rights proponent in Kentucky. The Lyman T. Johnson archives are part of the University Archives. The event was very successful and included several speakers who knew Lyman T. Johnson as teacher, friend, colleague or relative.

On June 9, Jerome Offord, Jr., Director of Diversity Initiatives, ARL, visited the UofL Libraries. Jerome was in Kentucky to begin the planning of the next National Diversity Conference in cooperation with SOLINET to be held in Louisville in 2008. We provided Jerome with a tour of our facility including the new wing, the Robotic Storage Retrieval system, and Special Collections. Jerome also joined a meeting of diversity chairs under the leadership of Vice Provost Mordean Taylor-Archer.

June 11-13, I visited Florida A & M University Libraries in preparation for our hosting of Brenda Wright, Associate Director at that institution, who will be at UofL from July 10-21. I was impressed with the libraries and the libraries’ many accomplishments and realized quickly that our two institutions and our libraries are very similar. We are excited about hosting Brenda so we can share our experiences and thoughts.

This year’s annual ARL meeting took place June 23-27 in New Orleans, Louisiana. It was the first major conference held in New Orleans since the devastating hurricane demolished much of the city. Approximately 16,000 persons including a large number of international participants attended the conference, somewhat fewer than usual. However, the city did a great job in hosting the conference, the hotels were fine, the convention center was prepared, a number of restaurants were available and the city provided good safety measures through police, National Guard and the military. As usual there were too many meetings to attend and one had to choose carefully to get the most out of the conference. The exhibits were wonderful and many new exhibitors enriched this conference. The conference also featured many authors as presenters as well book signers. Major speakers included Laura Bush, Madeleine Albright and New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin. I participated as a panel speaker at the New Member Round Table Annual Program: “Leadership through Publications.”

—Hannelore Rader, Dean, University Libraries
“I want to thank Melissa Laning and Dean Hannelore Rader for asking me to attend the SOLINET meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. It was a great learning and networking experience. Thank you for the opportunity. I also want to thank David Horvath for being so supportive of individuals and their projects. I cannot think of anyone else I would prefer to lead the Exhibits and Programming team. His tireless efforts, guidance and great attitude inspire others working around him.”

—Jami Allen
Circulation, Ekstrom Library

“I’d like to take this time to acknowledge and thank all those at Kersey who are working so hard on the move:

First a huge thank you to Steve Whiteside who since mid-March has been in charge of pulling and packing bound journals for transfer to the RRS. He is getting out 50-60 boxes per day and provides accurate notification the Ekstrom personnel so they know exactly what is coming. He has been very diligent in catching problems with the bibliographic records, holdings errors and linking problems which makes it possible to correct these before the shipments go to Ekstrom. Steve’s excellent work has made the processing on Ekstrom’s end much easier and has kept the move progressing well.

Next, thanks to Pat Waters who is correcting all the problems Steve finds, updating holdings records for some major reference works so the volumes can be retrieved easily from the RRS, and changing locations on books that are being removed from the reference collection. Her work on the Kersey end — assisted by Lokman, a student assistant — has made the journal transfers easier for Ekstrom and will do the same for the transfer of the Kersey reference collection.

No less important is the marking of book and journal volumes that will go into the RRS. Thanks to Adam, Marcia and the student assistants, about 10,000 books have already been marked for the RRS as well as the journal and reference volumes that will go into the RRS.

Last, but certainly not least, another big thanks to the student assistants who have worked so hard in helping Steve pull journals, pack and label boxes for the RRS. A special thanks to Selvam who has been Steve’s main puller and packer. Other students who have contributed are Swapnaj, Mozhgan, Nathan, Matt and Lokman.

This move is a big undertaking and so far, it is these people who have made it happen. Thank you all!”

—Carol S. Brinkman, Director
Laura Kersey Library of Engineering

“I nominate Alice Abbott-Moore for all of her extremely hard work in the RRS. Alice has scanned a huge part of the load since I’ve worked here. She always has a smile on her face, a great attitude and will stop whatever she is doing to demonstrate the RRS to patrons, visitors or the general public who are curious about the “Robot” in the library. She makes working fun! Thanks Alice!!! You ROCK!!! :)

—Erin McKinney
Stacks Maintenance, Ekstrom Library

“Please thank Bob Roehm for going the extra mile for patrons and their book needs. Last week (via the 2 AM email that I didn’t open until later) I received a plea from an MBA student for a book on international healthcare which we needed for our collection. It was only $18, but unavailable locally. There was only one copy in a vendor’s warehouse which Bob secured, and it was here in record time, and he (as well as our technical services staff) has made all of us look good! Although I had been working with this student for over two weeks, this source “makes” the research data come together.”

—Glenda Neely
Reference, Ekstrom Library
Ekstrom Library
Media and Current Periodicals

Seeking Enlightenment in Media and Current Periodicals
According to the Buddha, accepting change or shifts in one’s life with grace and without anger or frustration is part of the way to Nirvana. If that’s true, we in Media and Current Periodicals (and I dare say every department) have been working intensely to gain spiritual enlightenment.

We’ve been preparing for our separation for quite sometime and it finally feels real. Media to the first floor — Current Periodicals on the second floor. Videos and DVDs going — periodicals and microform staying. Trish and David with assorted students, going — Carol, with assorted students, staying. We’re all learning to accept it. Our target date is sometime around the beginning of the fall semester.

Kersey current periodicals (approximately 1000 titles) will begin making their way here in mid-July. We are busily preparing for them — shifting the current Ekstrom titles, adding shelving and rearranging furniture. And planning for what will be the Laura Kersey Reading Room in the months to come.

And for your summer viewing ... we have 31 new Criterion Collection titles. Criterion films are considered to be the “world’s greatest classic and contemporary films.” Bob Hoskins’ films are garnering the most attention from our local Criterion Collection aficionado’s — specifically Mona Lisa, directed by Neil Jordan and The Long Good Friday, directed by John Mackenzie. Check them out!

Or maybe you’d like to check out Monty Python’s the Life of Brian to help with that spiritual enlightenment thing.

Office of Libraries Technology
Update: MetaLib Implementation
Two orientation demo sessions have been provided. The orientation demo outline is available on the Intranet at http://staff.library.louisville.edu/ (main page under Letter M). (The tentative public release will be mid-July 2006.) It will be released as a beta with two modules: Find Database and Multi-Database Search. The personalization module will be released in spring 2007.

Update: Symantec Anti-Virus New Version Upgrade
Thanks to Sheila, Mioshi, Eric, Calvin, Mark and Adam, the critical version upgrade has been installed on all library PCs on Belknap campus.

New PCs and Servers
About 150 new PCs have been purchased. The PC upgrade process and preparation for replacement of loaning laptops for public use are in progress. A few major servers (including the one for U drive, Intranet and Special Collections) will be upgraded to join the Active Directory network.

GroupWise 7
According to IT, the GroupWise 7.1 upgrade is scheduled for July 28, 2006 during the PM maintenance. OLT is currently testing the client. IT’s planned cut date to remove the old client is October 27, 2006. However, we will delay the client upgrade for the Libraries as much as possible. New features in this release include Quick Spell Check, the ability to search attachments and, most
significantly, expanded support with the Mobile Connector (which allows you to utilize GroupWise from your Palm, Treo or other mobile device). For additional information see: https://docushare.louisville.edu/dsweb/View/Collection-2659

Office of the Dean

Personnel News

**Eric Lair** has accepted the position of Technology Specialist Intermediate reporting to Weiling Liu. Eric was previously employed with Sullivan University/IT and began his new assignment on June 5, 2006.

**Luann Duvall** has accepted the position of Computer Operations Advisor in the Office of Library Technologies effective June 26, 2006. Luann will report to Weiling Liu.

**Qing Cao** (pronounced Ching Chao) has accepted the position of Technology Specialist Senior effective July 17, 2006. Qing was previously employed by Fetter Printing Company as a web application programmer and analyst. He will report to Weiling Liu.

Special Collections

**Auction School**

Bill Carner graduated from the Missouri Auction School on June 4 after attending 10 days of classes in St. Louis. While at the school he joined other students in an evening of auctioneering at Our Place Auction House in nearby Hawk’s Point, Missouri. After Bill passes the Indiana Auctioneer’s examination he hopes to start working with other auctioneers in Harrison County, Indiana.

Bill drove through a western Kentucky downpour to see Bettye Lavette perform for free at the Henderson Blues and Barbeque Festival on Saturday, June 17. Bettye put on a terrific show after the outdoor concert area dried out from the earlier deluge. Bettye was followed by Warren Baxter Brooks (son of Lonnie Brooks) and the Tommy Castro Band. After her show, Bettye was kind enough to interrupt her autograph signing to pose for a photograph with Bill. Bettye will be performing on the banks of the Ohio again at the Madison (Indiana) Ribberfest on August 19 and you know Bill’s gonna be there.

On July 2, Bill joined members of the Southern Indiana Draft Horse & Mule Association for a Sunday wagon ride on the back roads of Spencer County. They traveled over about 15 miles of gravel and paved roads in the area north of the town of Grand View in about six hours. While the weather was hot, the route was planned to take advantage of the shade provided by roadside trees and the group stopped to rest the mules and horses every forty minutes or so.
At the 2006 Annual Conference in Baltimore, Maryland held June 10-15, James Manasco was elected the next Chair-Elect of the Information Technology (IT) Division of the Special Libraries Association (SLA). James will begin serving on January 1, 2007. He will serve as Chair of the division during 2008. He previously served as Program Planner for the division, organizing the programs presented during the 2006 Annual Conference. Other UofL folks involved with those programs were Jill Sherman, who served as moderator, and Judy Wulff, who served as a speaker, at the session “Evolving the Resolving: Open URL.”

For those who are more used to hearing the acronym ALA rather than SLA, a little background might be handy. SLA was founded in 1909 by librarians who didn’t feel their needs were being adequately met by ALA. The association serves as a home to information professionals who work in corporate, technical, government, museum, subject specific and other specialized areas of knowledge management and librarianship. The association is international and serves a membership of about 12,000 in 83 countries.

The IT Division, one of the larger divisions within SLA, is focused on providing a professional home for those “involved with the planning, development and practical application of existing and new technologies and systems for the processing and control of information, in any subject discipline and in any form, for its eventual retrieval and use convenient to the requester” (from the current IT Division brochure). To find out more about SLA, and the IT Division, check out www.sla.org.

Kersey Library

ASEE Conference
Jan Kulkarni attended the Annual Conference of the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE) June 18 through June 21 in Chicago.

Summer Birthdays
Matt Kokas (June) and Marcia Kotlinski (July) will be celebrating their summer birthdays. Kersey Library would like to extend birthday wishes to the rest of you celebrating your very special summer day!

Farewell from Kersey Library
This marks our last issue of news to The Owl. Kersey Library closes its doors for the last time on Friday, the 21st of July. This will be a sad day for many and a surprise for those who, still, do not seem to be aware that our library is closing. This place has quite a history especially since Laura Kersey, founding librarian for whom the building was named, molded it into the successful library that it is today. She will be haunting this building and those responsible for our move! So be aware ... especially around Halloween!!

This is my goodbye and farewell also since I will be retiring in August. I will miss working here with all of you in the University Libraries.

Marcia Kotlinski signing off... [Editor’s note: Marcia was our most faithful reporter, and we will miss her!]

Kornhauser Library

Friends of Kornhauser
This year’s Friends of Kornhauser dinner marked an extraordinary event in the Health Sciences Library’s august history: the acquisition of the 250,000th volume in its collection. The celebratory occasion was made possible by long-time Friends member Dr. Morris M. Weiss, through his donation of a rare copy of a 1638 publication of Hippocrates: Aphorismi Graece & Latinae. After a warm welcoming speech and introduction by Kornhauser Director Neal Nixon, Dr. Weiss unveiled his remarkable donation to his awestruck audience. His accompanying remarks chronicled the history of his family’s involvement in the Louisville medical community, and related how his father acquired this rare edition of an enduring work by one of history’s most famous physicians and ethicists. Dr. Weiss also expressed his great appreciation for the Kornhauser Health Sciences Library and its service to the medical community, and hinted at future donations to come.

University Archivist, William J. Morison, followed Dr. Weiss to the lectern. Dr. Morison enthralled the audience with a thoroughly entertaining presentation titled: “Early UofL: Heady Times, Bumpy Heads and Bickering Sawbones.” Aided with illustrations culled from the University Archives, Bill led his rapt listeners on an excursion through the fractious and intrigue-ridden annals of UofL’s founding, its eventual merger with one of the many medical schools that had been established in the city,
its battles with the state and city governments, and the remarkable personalities—medical, academic and political—who made possible this fantastic tale of institution-building.

Music for the event was provided by the Trio Louisville string ensemble, featuring Kornhauser’s own Betsy Osoffsky. The evening ended with everyone in high spirits, and UofL archivist Kathie Johnson assuming the responsibility for conveying the valuable new gift to its new home in the KHSL rare book collection.

Elevator Construction
Construction has begun on the new elevator for the KHSL. Unfortunately, due to budget constraints, plans for the new elevator no longer include the long-anticipated martini bar, wait staff, or VIP lounge area. Construction and installation is scheduled for completion before the discovery of a cure for the common cold or the invention of George Jetson-inspired anti-gravity belts, whichever comes first.

Law Library
New Faculty
The Law Library is pleased to announce that we have a new faculty person, Virginia Smith, who is the library’s Reference/Computer Services Librarian. Virginia takes over for Scott Campbell, who now devotes all his time to his duties as head of the technical services department. Virginia received her Master of Library Information Science from the University of Hawaii in December 2001 and a B.A in Business Administration from Bellarmine University in May 1993. Today Virginia and her husband live in the Highlands. They have two cats, Hapa and Pai Mei. Please come by and give a hearty welcome

The Campus Health Initiative will be visiting Ekstrom Library to hold a Mini Health Fair. The fair provides a blood pressure screening, body fat analysis, and body mass index calculation. There will also be informative handouts regarding lowering blood pressure and other aspects of total wellness. This service is free to UofL employees! Come join us!
When: August 1, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Where: Ekstrom Library, New Wing main floor, in the “lounging area” to the east of the circulation desk

Libraries, Technology and Solutions
By Jami Allen, Ekstrom Circulation
How will libraries function in the future as the culture of information exchange moves towards digitization? Will libraries change or become obsolete? These are only a few issues that will face many research libraries in the not so distant future.

On May 10, 2006, The Georgia Institute of Technology hosted the SOLINET Workshop for Non-MLS Professionals Working in ASERL Libraries in Atlanta, Georgia. Many ASERL Deans (including Dean Hannelore Rader) presented on a wide range of topics and posed a variety questions to staff members for discussion. Questions focused on the challenges facing and the changes occurring within research libraries. Technology, increasing the visibility of library materials and services, and making non-MLS staff feel like they are valued members of the library system were some items noted by the staff in attendance.

In addition, the OCLC report entitled Perceptions of Libraries and Information Resources was required reading for attendance. This literature analyzed and published survey results from people in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom and Australia/Singapore/India regions. Users were asked to comment on traditional libraries, Google and electronic information depositories.

The conference was an eye-opening experience. It put the role of libraries, technology and larger educational issues into a broader context. The ASERL Deans allowed staff to see their jobs from a different perspective. My hope is that University Libraries Administration will keep sending non-MLS staff to workshops so staff can increase their knowledge and expand their network.

After leaving the workshop, I thought about the need for funding to provide more staff, materials and technology. Should more staff be trained to write grants as part of their job? How can a library make money instead of solely using money? What ways can we use non-MLS staff more effectively within the library setting? Vanderbilt is doing interesting things to address some of these issues. I would like to invite our talented faculty and staff to think about how we can help reach the libraries’ goals. Together, we can find solutions to boost finances, add interesting facets to our jobs and help increase the profile of the University Libraries system. Development Officer Traci Simonsen has done an outstanding job fund-raising. Maybe our ideas can help her and Dean Rader to meet their goals.
to Virginia when you can. Her office room number is 121H and her phone number is 852-2075.

University Archives &
Records Center

Western Front Association

Kathie Johnson spent an enjoyable time in Denver (May 19-21) at the annual seminar of the Western Front Association. “World War I and the Homefront” was the theme of the seminar and the topics covered ranged from the influenza pandemic to the use of propaganda by the U.S. government to the effects of the war on the mining industry of Colorado. Following the seminar, she and Ron drove south to Colorado Springs, then west to Salida, north to Leadville and Breckinridge, and back to Denver to fly home. The scenery was breathtaking and the whole trip a great deal of fun, excluding some altitude sickness. Leadville is the highest city in the U.S. (at over 10,000 feet) and that altitude did take its toll.

Bill Carner visited the installation of Dale Chihuly glass art at the Missouri Botanical Garden while he was in St. Louis for the Missouri Auction School and took this striking photograph.